



**Kelly Rusin** pitched a six-hitter and struck out six Orchard Park batters in helping Williamsville East win, 5-1, in a Bracket B quarterfinal game of the Wildcat Invitational Softball Tournament held on Saturday, May 5 at Walden Pond in Lancaster. East defeated Depew, 4-0, in the semifinal before losing to Section V's Victor, 8-0, in the final.

Photo by John Rusac  
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## Spin

## Vacant Eggertsville buildings get new life

by **JESSICA L. FINCH**  
Associate Editor

A Dunkin' Donuts, a AAA automotive service center and a new Consumer's Beverage Center will revamp the intersection of Eggert Road and Sheridan Drive.

The Amherst Town Board approved the rezoning needed to move the projects forward on Monday. The parcel at 2131 Eggert Road was rezoned from GB-General Business to MS-Motor Service District.

Attorney Sean Hopkins, of Hopkins, Garas & Sorgi, PLLC, estimated that the parcel had been vacant for five years.

The AAA service center will be built at 2131 Eggert Road. According to Hopkins, the business plans to move quickly on the project once the permits are secured.

The Planning Board recommended approval on April 19.

The other parcels involved in the redevelopment are at 2155 Eggert Road and 3025 Sheridan Drive.

Dunkin' Donuts will demolish the 2155 Eggert Road parcel and build a new structure. It had formerly been a Consumer's Beverage for 43 years, Neil Kavanaugh,

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## Bank robbery remains under investigation

by **JESSICA L. FINCH**  
Associate Editor

Amherst police continue to investigate a bank robbery and an attempted bank robbery, which both took place at the end of last week.

Northwest Savings Bank, 3150 Sheridan Drive, was robbed of \$3,000 on Saturday by a man wearing a ski mask.

Assistant Chief John Askey said two employees were working and no customers were in the bank when the robbery occurred.

"Both employees were working at the counter, he walked up to them in a ski mask, jumped the counter and the suspect took out the money from one of the drawers," Askey said. "He then looked through the other drawers

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## Family plans basketball game to 'Knockout Cancer'

by **JESSICA L. FINCH**  
Associate Editor

Even though Alexander Grano wasn't born when his father David beat cancer, he is working to make sure thousands of children, like him, will have the same opportunity he has had to play with his dad.

The Grano family is planning a "Knockout Cancer" basketball tournament in their backyard. The family enjoys playing basketball in their backyard, including mom, Jackie, and Jonathan, 6. David is also a coach for Amherst Youth Basketball.

It was Alexander, 9, who came up with the idea to hold a tournament to raise money for Roswell Park Cancer Institute.

"One day I was in the car with

my mom and we were talking about disease ... and I thought how I like basketball and thought how I could have a knockout tournament to raise money for cancer research," Alexander said.

David is a 24-year survivor, beating the disease prior to meeting Jackie and starting their family. Jackie said as a survivor David looks forward to promoting the success of survivors.

"We say, 'Without him there would be no me,' about the kids," Jackie said about the team's unofficial motto.

Alexander said he hopes that his efforts will one day put a lot more people in the same category as his dad.

"I hope the money will one day

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**David Grano** and his son, Alexander, 9, gear up for the "Knockout Cancer" basketball tournament they have planned for June 2 at 36 Summershade Court. Alexander created the idea to raise money to help more cancer patients become survivors like his dad.

Photo by Jim Smerecak  
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Williamsville native **Wendie Malick** stars in a contemporary drama at Studio Arena. See page 46

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Leisure & Recreation

**SPECIAL SECTION**  
What's A Kid To Do?

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